

Project Highlight – SD State Wildlife Grant

Project Type Planning

Title An aquatic invasive species risk assessment for South Dakota

In a nutshell South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks contracted with South Dakota State University to draft an aquatic nuisance species risk assessment to evaluate and prioritize risks posed by aquatic nuisance species to South Dakota's aquatic environments. The risk assessment provided a foundation for development of a state aquatic nuisance species management plan.

Relevant Species of Greatest Conservation Need

- Lake Chub (*Couesius plumbeus*)
- Mountain Sucker (*Catostomus platyrhynchus*)
- False Map Turtle (*Graptemys pseudogeographica*)
- Elktoe (*Alasmodonta marginata*)
- Rock Pocketbook (*Arcidens confragosus*)
- Creek Heelsplitter (*Lasmigona compressa*)

Relevant Habitats aquatic habitats

Cooperators South Dakota State University (Dr. Katie Bertrand)

Purpose

- Supply information required for effective control and management of aquatic invasive species (AIS) in South Dakota.
- Develop an objective ranking of threat from AIS.

Timeframe 2007 - 2008

Summary or Important Findings

- Sixty-one aquatic nuisance species were considered most relevant to South Dakota, 14 of which were identified as primary species of concern: Brittle Naiad (*Najas minor*), Curly Pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*), Didymosphenia (*Didymosphenia geminata*), Eurasian Water-Milfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), New Zealand Mudsnail (*Potamopyrgus antipodarum*), Rusty Crayfish (*Orconectes rusticus*), Dreissenids (Zebra and Quagga Mussels; *Dreissena* spp.), Bighead Carp (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*), Black Carp (*Hypophthalmichthys nigromaculatus*), Common Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), Grass Carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*), Silver Carp (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*), and Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS).

Best contact persons Dr. Katie Bertrand, SDSU and Mike Smith, AIS Coordinator, SDGFP

Links to

Bertrand. K. 2008. South Dakota aquatic nuisance species risk assessment. Dept of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, South Dakota State University, Brookings.
South Dakota's aquatic nuisance species management plan, 2008:

<http://gfp.sd.gov/wildlife/docs/SDANS-final-draft-management-plan.pdf>

SD website information on aquatic invasive species: <http://sdleastwanted.com/>